

14
REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM,

(AT LEXINGTON,)

FOR THE YEARS 1856-7.

FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY.
A. G. HODGES, PUBLIC PRINTER.
1856.



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REPORT.

EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM, OF KENTUCKY, }
December 19th, 1857. }

To the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky :

The Managers of this Institution present the following report of its management and condition, for the past two years, embracing the statements required by law, and such suggestions as they deem important to continue and advance its usefulness.

The accompanying accounts of the Treasurer, present the amount of the expenditure, and the general heads making up the aggregates; his account settled by the Auditor, exhibits each item and its proper voucher.

The reports of the Medical Superintendent, Dr. W. S. Chipley, show the number of patients received, discharged, and now in the Asylum, with a full and satisfactory account of all such matters as were deemed important. While we earnestly ask your attention to it, we desire specially to notice some of its recommendations.

We have heretofore repeatedly pointed out the deficiencies of this Institution, and pressed its wants upon the Legislature, and while it must be acknowledged that much to promote its usefulness has been done, yet it is far from being in a condition to compare favorably with the Western Asylum, or any other well appointed retreat for the insane in our country. In order that these statements may be properly verified, we would suggest the appointment, by the Legislature, of a special committee, for its examination.

The amount appropriated, at the last session of the Legislature, for the ordinary expenses, will be sufficient for its continued support, provided there is an equitable division of the State between the two Asylums. As the law now stands, this Institution, with a capacity to accommodate two hundred and twenty-five patients, is crowded with two hundred and thirty-six, and the other, having accommodations for three hundred and fifty, has only about one hundred. There is no objection to our having this number, if the State will afford the means of their proper maintenance, and correspondingly enlarge our buildings. We have been compelled to reject a number of applications for admission, and the continuance of the present law will be a practical denial to the inhabitants of this district, of hospital treatment for their insane, while a larger part of a costly Institution, owned by the State, is vacant and unoccupied.

A statement has been prepared, from the reports of fifteen similar institutions, in sister States, for the present year, from which it appears that the average cost of supporting each patient is \$172 63 per annum, or \$3 32 per week. In making a comparison with our expenditures, it must be remembered that in no one of them are they taxed with the conveyance of patients to, or from, the Asylum—a heavy item in our accounts.

We have heretofore mentioned the abuse so often practised, in sending up patients from other counties. We have paid \$95 expenses, for bringing a man from a town and sent to the same place for another, at a cost of \$17. If the last sentence in Sec. 20, Chap. 48, Art. 2, of the Revised Statutes was repealed, it would prevent this abuse and inflict no injury upon any one, as the Superintendent in three years experience states, that he has never known an instance in which the patient might not have been sent for.

A large appropriation will be required for improvements and repairs, if it is intended to place this Institution on a footing with others in the country. First in importance, is the completion of the heating apparatus, to which reference was made in our last report. This is called for as a mere matter of humanity. Without it the patients cannot be secured from actual and severe suffering, whenever the weather is cold. If the present plan, which is most economical, should not be carried out, some other should be provided to prevent the suffering which has occurred, and will continue to occur, while there is a part of the building in constant use, which cannot be warmed. If the apparatus is completed, it adds very little to the cost of fuel, will materially reduce the danger of conflagration, the cost of insurance, the repairs of water-pipe, and promote the comfort of the patients.

We require a smoke-house, garden-house and work-shops. The first two are indispensable, as measures of economy, and for the latter we have been importuning the Legislature for more than ten years. There is not a respectable institution where they are not found.

In buildings of the size of those under our care, constant repairs are needed, to prevent decay and keep them in proper condition. A new metal roof is now needed on the south-east wing, a great part of the guttering demands renewal, all the buildings need a coat of paint, the plastering requires extensive repairs, much of the flooring of the porches is rotten, the fencing is so delapidated that it cannot be secured much longer.

We have repeatedly asked the Legislature for the means of providing for that diversion and amusement which contributes so materially to the comfort and restoration of the inmates of an asylum. A few hundred dollars would sufficiently provide for this.

We have been renting, for many years, the farm adjoining the lands of the Asylum. The importance of its purchase has been repeatedly

set forth, not only in our reports, but in those of committees of the Legislature, who have investigated the wants of the Institution. As our lease is about expiring, this importance is magnified. No more favorable opportunity for its purchase is likely to arise in the future.

There is an unsettled demand against the State, in favor of M. Greenwood & Co., of Cincinnati, for the erection of the heating apparatus. Since our former report, detailing the facts connected with it, we have had the work examined and measured by an experienced and reliable workman, and his estimate corresponds with the account as rendered, and which will be before the Legislature. We have nothing further to add on the question of its payment. We discharge our duty in presenting to you, and through you to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth, such suggestions as we deem important, it remains for them to take such action as will secure the highest good from the Institution under our care.

We take pleasure in bearing our testimony to the attention, zeal and ability displayed by Dr. W. S. Chipley, in the management of the Asylum, and to the order, cleanliness and comfort every where prevailing.

R. PINDELL, <i>Chairman.</i>	} <i>Board of Managers.</i>
E. L. DUDLEY,	
CHARLES S. BODLEY,	
J. A. GRINSTEAD,	
S. M. LETCHER,	

OFFICERS OF EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM.
LEXINGTON, KY.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

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W. S. CHIPLEY, M. D., *Superintendent.*
T. P. DUDLEY, M. D., *Assistant Physician.*
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REV. W. M. PRATT, *Chaplain.*
WILLIAM RICE, *Steward.*
MRS. JANE RICE, *Matron.*

October 1st, 1856.

Superintendent's Report,

FOR NINE MONTHS, ENDING WITH THE 30TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 1856.

Board of Managers of the Eastern Lunatic Asylum :

GENTLEMEN : The thirty-third annual report of this Institution is herewith respectfully submitted. Heretofore, the annual report of the medical superintendent has been transmitted to your Board on the first day of January; but the law now requires it to be submitted within the first ten days of October of each year, consequently the present report will embrace a period of only nine months, bringing the history of the Institution up to the first day of October, 1856:

SYNOPSIS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining in the Asylum January 1st, 1856,	104	82	186
Admitted since,	42	32	74
Whole number during nine months,	146	114	260
Discharged recovered,	21	7	28
Died,	11	14	25
Removed,	2	5	7
Eloped,	2	-	2
Remaining October 1st,	119	88	198
Whole number in the Asylum to October 1st,	1,464	723	2,187
Discharged recovered,	-	-	803
Died,	-	-	877
Removed,	-	-	178
Eloped,	-	-	131
Remaining,	-	-	198

Of those received during the last nine months, the following table exhibits the duration of insanity prior to admission:

Over twenty years,	6
From fifteen to twenty years,	4
From ten to fifteen,	3
From five to ten,	3
From one to five,	13
Under one year,	32
Unknown,	13

CIVIL CONDITION.

Married,	25
Single,	38
Widows,	8
Widowers,	2
Divorced,	1

OCCUPATION OF MALES.

Farmers,	27
Barber,	1
Coppersmith,	1
Laborers,	3
Carpenters,	2
Printer,	1
Physician,	1
Coachman,	1
Harness Maker,	1
None,	1

FORM OF INSANITY.

Mania, - - - - -	41
Monomania, - - - - -	3
Dementia, - - - - -	7
Epileptic mania, - - - - -	4
Idiocy, - - - - -	5
Paralysie generale, - - - - -	1
Mania a Potu, - - - - -	2
Melancholia, - - - - -	8
Puerperal mania, - - - - -	2
Febrile delirium, - - - - -	1

Of the whole number admitted, ten had been previously confined in this or some other similar Institution.

Eighteen are noted as having an hereditary taint.

The average age of the whole number was, at the time of admission, 35.16 years.

NATIVITY.

Kentucky, - - - - -	42
Texas, - - - - -	1
North Carolina, - - - - -	1
Georgia, - - - - -	3
Indiana, - - - - -	1
Virginia, - - - - -	4
Missouri, - - - - -	2
Pennsylvania, - - - - -	1
Germany, - - - - -	8
Ireland, - - - - -	7
France, - - - - -	2
Bavaria, - - - - -	1
England, - - - - -	1

RESIDENCE AT THE TIME OF ADMISSION.

Jefferson, - - - - -	13	Scott, - - - - -	1
Woodford, - - - - -	1	Madison, - - - - -	1
Bourbon, - - - - -	1	Montgomery, - - - - -	1
Mason, - - - - -	2	Powell, - - - - -	1
Campbell, - - - - -	2	Carter, - - - - -	1
Trimble, - - - - -	4	Clarke, - - - - -	1
Estill, - - - - -	1	Marion, - - - - -	2
Floyd, - - - - -	1	Bullitt, - - - - -	1
Fleming, - - - - -	1	Oldham, - - - - -	2
Shelby, - - - - -	2	Bracken, - - - - -	5
Pulaski, - - - - -	1	Nelson, - - - - -	3
Henry, - - - - -	2	Fayette, - - - - -	8
Carroll, - - - - -	1	Grant, - - - - -	1
Greenup, - - - - -	1	Kenton, - - - - -	2
Morgan, - - - - -	1	Mercer, - - - - -	1
Jessamine, - - - - -	1	Whitly, - - - - -	2
Nicholas, - - - - -	1	Texas, - - - - -	1
Franklin, - - - - -	1	Georgia, - - - - -	1
Harrison, - - - - -	1	Arkansas, - - - - -	1

The advantage of early treatment has been so frequently alluded to, and so earnestly pressed upon the attention of the friends of the insane, that I do not deem it necessary to dwell upon the subject. I may be permitted, however, to give another illustration of the marked success which ordinarily crowns the proper treatment of recent cases. Of thirty-two persons admitted within the first year of insanity, fifteen have been already discharged recovered; fourteen are progressing to a satisfactory result; one died a few days after admission; one died exhausted by age and physical disease, and one was

removed at my suggestion, much improved, to try the effect of travel and change of scene. The remaining two have not been with us long enough to enable me to predict the result.

Contrast this favorable result with the unhappy fate of forty-two admitted during the same period, with whom insanity had existed more than one year. Of these, two only have recovered, and very few, if any of the remaining forty, will ever be restored to society. There can be no doubt, but many of these cases have become hopeless only by the lapse of time, during which no suitable efforts were made for their recovery.

By reference to our synoptical table, you will perceive that twenty-five deaths occurred during the time covered by this report. The following tables will present a brief abstract of the history of those who died:

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Old age,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Apoplexy,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Epilepsy,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Paralysis generale,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hemorrhagic exansthion,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Frost bite,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Consumption,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Maniacal exhaustion,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Fever,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ossification of the heart,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

AGES OF DECEASED.

Over eighty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over seventy years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over sixty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over fifty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Over forty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Over thirty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Over twenty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Under twenty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Average age,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	39.64

DURATION OF INSANITY.

Over thirty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Over twenty years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Over ten years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Over five years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Over two years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Over one year,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Under one year,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Unknown,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

TIME SPENT IN THIS INSTITUTION.

Twenty-nine years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Nine years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Eight years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Five years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
One year,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Eight months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Two months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Six weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Four weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Three weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Two weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3

Most of those who died within the first few weeks after admission, were, at the time, in the last stage of disease, and several were never

able to be out of bed. Idiots and epileptics, especially, are frequently detained at home until they become utterly filthy and disgusting in their habits, and are sent to the Asylum only when life is almost extinct.

Most of the mortality of the present year occurred in the early part of the season. After the first of May, the Institution became quite healthy, and has continued so to the present time. But one death occurred from 11th day of May to the 9th day of August. I think I am authorized to attribute our exemption from the ordinary amount of sickness during the summer, at least to some extent, to a change of water for drinking and culinary purposes. Diarrhoea has been the prevailing malady in this Institution for many years. In April last it was observed to be more than ordinarily prevalent, and early in May it assumed the form of an epidemic.

Having discovered that the spring, from which the Institution has drawn its supply of water since it was opened in 1824, was rendered impure through some accidental connection with the main sewer draining our bath-rooms, water-closets, wash-house, kitchens, etc., I could not hesitate to regard this as the cause of the prevailing malady.

This sewer was constructed some ten years ago, and is substantially built, but of rough stone without cement; it is from six to twenty feet beneath the surface of the ground, and passes, in its course to a natural sink, through a valley immediately over the stream before it issues at the spring-house. In its course, it describes rather more than half a circle, within which the spring is located. In the course of time, the foul matters passing through this drain has found access to the stream, and recently this connection has become so direct that soap-suds will issue at the spring, almost as pure as when emptied at the wash-house, in the short space of twenty minutes. All communication with the spring was immediately cut off, and for several weeks water was hauled from the city, a distance of nearly one mile. Within one week, not a case of diarrhoea remained in the house, and we continue exempt from that troublesome malady to the present time.

Our note-book exhibits evidence of a very remarkable and sudden change in the character of complaints—cathartics taking the place of opiates and astringents.

With great labor a considerable portion of the sewer was exposed, with a view of remedying its defects; but this soon became manifestly impracticable, without the outlay of a sum of money which the Institution could not command. The only remaining resource was to seek a supply of water at some point not likely to be affected by the drainage of the Institution. Having obtained the sanction of your Board, an artesian well was commenced, convenient to the house yet above the sewer, and rapidly prosecuted to a successful result. I am happy

to say, that an abundant supply of wholesome water was obtained at the depth of 106 feet—89 feet through solid rock. The water immediately rose 50 feet in the bore, and throughout the present extraordinary dry season, when many streams never known to have been affected at any previous time have failed, our supply for all purposes has been inexhaustible, and doubtless will so continue.

The water possesses wholesome medicinal properties, without affecting its usefulness for any of the ordinary purposes of the Asylum. Prof. Peter, of the Medical Department of Transylvania University, has ascertained, by analysis, that it contains about 2 grs. of common salt to the gallon; small portions of the carb. of lime and magnesia; a trace of the carb. of iron, with chlorid of sodium, sulph. of lime and magnesia, and minute traces of bromine and iodine; its gases are sulphurated hydrogen and carbonic acid. Its flavor is pleasant, and all become fond of it, preferring it to any other. I regard the discovery of this water one of the most fortunate circumstances that could have occurred. I am sure it has already saved us from much disease, and I believe it will prove a lasting blessing to the Institution.

The effect of the spring water on new-comers was alluded to in my report last year, as also its probable agency in producing the great mortality of that season. The imperfect condition of the sewer was then suspected, and made known to your Board; but there was not, until last spring, such unmistakable evidence of the fact as to lead to the adoption of measures to rid us of the evil. That object is now accomplished, and at a cost not exceeding three hundred and twenty dollars.

The contracts entered into by your Board with Messrs. Hawley & Co., of Louisville, and Mr. Adams, of this city, for the renovation of our bath-rooms and water-closets, and with Mr. Snead, of Louisville, to supply certain windows with iron grating, are now nearly completed.

The period for the fulfillment of these contracts has long since passed, and we have labored under serious inconvenience, on that account during the entire summer; but I am satisfied that Messrs. Hawley & Co. have done everything in their power to forward the work on which they are engaged—the time for its completion has been protracted by sickness of their principal workmen, and other causes beyond their control. The work thus far has been executed in a neat and substantial manner, and I feel confident that it will add alike to the convenience, comfort and health of our entire household.

So far as Mr. Snead has executed his contract, he has given entire satisfaction. The gothic pattern so judiciously adopted by your Board, is ornamental, and gives quite a finish to that part of the building which has been so long disfigured with numerous wooden bars, suggestive of a prison without the security they are intended to give.

The cost of these improvements will fall within the specific appropriation granted for these purposes by the last General Assembly.

During the summer our engineer has occupied his spare time in supplying the house with such conveniences as the limited means at his command would justify. Besides numerous repairs, he has constructed four large coils, and placed them in the female wings, where they will, at least to some extent, prevent the intense suffering endured in that part of the house last winter. The pipes, of which these coils are constructed, were removed from the rooms occupied principally by officers and employees of the Institution, and for which fire in common grates will be substituted. I regretted the necessity of this change, but humanity demanded some relief for these delicate and unfortunate females, and I had no other means of effecting the object within my control. No loss will follow the change. Economy and the safety of the building, and what is of far greater import, the comfort of those who are confined here by authority of the Commonwealth, make the completion of the heating apparatus imperative. When this is done, the coils to which I have alluded will constitute a part of the completed apparatus.

The carpenter has been constantly employed in making repairs, and is now engaged preparing lumber to enclose the verandas for the winter. These verandas are situated between the day-rooms on the one side and the dining-rooms and water-closets on the other, and it has been found impossible to preserve a comfortable temperature in any part of the house while they remain open to the cold winds of winter. I am confident that this improvement will greatly lessen our consumption of fuel, and contribute essentially to the comfort of the inmates of the house.

The farm and garden have been, as usual, successfully cultivated by the patients exclusively. Their produce is not equal to that of last season, owing to the most intense and protracted drouth I have ever witnessed; but I am happy to say, that if we have no surplus, the yield, in most things, will furnish a supply equal to our ordinary wants.

I need not say that many of the inmates have been engaged in works intended to promote the health and comfort of the household. The sewer leading from the water-closets of the male department, was found to be obstructed, and an immense accumulation of filth had taken place beneath the floor of the basement, near the center of the building, where there was supposed to be a natural sink capable of conveying it away. This nuisance was abated by constructing a sewer from the point of accumulation to the main sewer which now drains the entire establishment. Having progressed thus far, it was discovered that the main sewer itself was choked immediately beneath the

water-closets in the front part of the building. This was also cleared, and the drainage is now complete from every part of the building to a natural sink below the spring. This sink is also very much obstructed, but it will not be practicable to clear it out until the weather becomes cool. The work about these sewers was exceedingly disagreeable, but was cheerfully executed by one of the out-door attendants, assisted by some of the inmates. This nuisance was not known to exist, and was only discovered in the process of renovating the water-closets. It was probably one cause of the fearful mortality which clothed the house in mourning last summer.

The terraces about the house have been completed, and add much to the health and comfort of those, especially, whose employments confine them to the basement.

The pavements have been greatly extended, using only such old material for that purpose as remained of the building consumed by fire in 1852.

The old quarry which has, for a long time, disfigured the otherwise beautiful grounds in front of the main building, has been filled up and handsomely terraced and sodded.

The females have been, also, usefully employed. They have made and repaired all the clothing worn by the patients supported by the State, besides making a large number of quilts, comforts, sheets, &c. Under the direction of our excellent Matron, Mrs. Rice, one hundred and seventy-three yards of beautiful rag-carpet has been made, and a large amount of additional material is now ready for the loom. Many of the females incompetent to serve in the sewing-room have rendered material aid in the wash-house and ironing department, and in the performance of other domestic duties.

Every days experience confirms the opinion that, while moderate well regulated labor is one of the most efficient means of restoring the curable, it affords the greatest relief to the wearisome days of those who are destined to endure a lasting separation from society.

I desire to express the gratitude of many of our patients to the proprietors of the following periodicals, which have been kindly furnished gratuitously: Kentucky Statesman, Lexington; Hickman Argus, Hickman; Ashland Kentuckian, Ashland; Kentucky Age Cynthia; The News, Cynthia; Covington Journal, Covington; Paducah Democrat, Paducah.

Those who have served us so kindly can scarcely conceive an idea of the avidity with which many of our unfortunates seek their papers, and thus maintain, in some sort, their connection with the outer world, and which enables them to while away many a tedious hour. We regret that such contributions are not far more numerous, as among two hundred inmates we have many whose greatest delight is a newspaper.

We are still blessed with the services of the Rev. Dr. W. M. Pratt, who occupies the pulpit in Megowan Hall every Sabbath afternoon. More than half of our inmates ordinarily attend religious service, and it is a privilege highly prized by many.

I take pleasure in commending the officers and attendants for uniform strict attention to their respective duties. Without their cordial support, I could not have it in my power to present so favorable a report of the condition of the Institution. I do not believe that any similar institution can boast of a more capable and conscientious corps of employees, or justly pride itself on a higher degree of harmony and cordial good will, than exists here. All have cheerfully engaged in any labor that was thought conducive to the general interest of the Asylum and the welfare of its inmates, and the chief ambition displayed has been to excel in efficiency in effecting these great ends.

With sincere thanks for the courtesy and indulgence with which your Board have regarded my official acts, I bid farewell to the past and enter upon a new year, which, I trust, under a kind Providence, will develop still happier results than any heretofore recorded in this Institution.

W. S. CHIPLEY,

Medical Superintendent.

EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM, }
Lexington, Oct. 1st, 1856. }

OFFICERS OF EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM.
LEXINGTON, KY.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

RICHARD PINDELL, Esq., *Chairman.*

SAMUEL M. LETCHER, M. D.

JAMES A. GRINSTEAD, Esq.

E. L. DUDLEY, M. D.

C. S. BODLEY, Esq.

W. S. CHIPLEY, M. D., *Superintendent.*

T. P. DUDLEY, M. D., *Assistant Physician.*

THOS. B. MONROE, Esq., *Secretary and Treasurer.*

Rev. W. M. PRATT, *Chaplain.*

WILLIAM RICE, *Steward.*

Mrs. JANE RICE, *Matron.*

October 1st, 1857.

ORDER OF VISITATION FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

"The Managers shall maintain a vigilant inspection of the Asylum, for which purpose one of them shall visit it once a week, two once every month, a majority once every quarter, and the whole Board once every six months, in the manner and at the times to be prescribed by the by-laws. In a book, kept for that purpose, the visiting Manager, or Managers, shall note the date of each visit, the condition of the house, patients, &c., with such remarks as may be deemed necessary."—*Rev. Statutes.*

WEEKLY VISITS.

	October.	Novemb.	Decemb.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Septemb.
R. Pindell,	1	5	10	15	19	25	30	6	10	15	19	23
Dr. Dudley,	8	12	17	22	26	-	2	13	17	22	26	30
Dr. Letcher,	15	19	24	29	-	5	9	20	24	29	-	2
J. Grinstead,	22	26	31	-	5	12	16	27	-	1	5	9
C. S. Bodley,	29	-	3	7	12	19	23	-	3	8	12	16

MONTHLY VISITS.

R. Pindell,	-	-	-	-	-	October,	March,	August.
Dr. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	-	October,	March,	August.
Dr. Letcher,	-	-	-	-	-	November,	April,	September.
J. Grinstead,	-	-	-	-	-	November,	April,	September.
C. S. Bodley,	-	-	-	-	-	December,	May,	
R. Pindell,	-	-	-	-	-	December,	May,	
Dr. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	-	January,	June,	
Dr. Letcher,	-	-	-	-	-	January,	June,	
J. Grinstead,	-	-	-	-	-	February,	July,	
C. S. Bodley,	-	-	-	-	-	February,	July,	

QUARTERLY VISITS.

C. S. Bodley,	-	-	-	-	-	October,	November,	December.
J. Grinstead,	-	-	-	-	-	October,	November,	December.
Dr. Letcher,	-	-	-	-	-	October,	November,	December.
R. Pindell,	-	-	-	-	-	January,	February,	March.
Dr. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	-	January,	February,	March.
C. S. Bodley,	-	-	-	-	-	January,	February,	March.
J. Grinstead,	-	-	-	-	-	April,	May,	June.
Dr. Letcher,	-	-	-	-	-	April,	May,	June.
Dr. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	-	April,	May,	June.
R. Pindell,	-	-	-	-	-	July,	August,	September.
C. S. Bodley,	-	-	-	-	-	July,	August,	September.
Dr. Dudley,	-	-	-	-	-	July,	August,	September.

SEMI-ANNUAL VISITS.

Whole Board,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	October and April.
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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT,

For the year ending with the 30th day of September, 1857.

Board of Managers of the Eastern Lunatic Asylum:

GENTLEMEN—I herewith submit the Thirty-Fourth Annual Report of the condition of this Institution:

SYNOPSIS.

	M.	F.	Total.
Remaining in the Asylum, October 1st, 1856,	110	88	198
Admitted since,	66	34	100
Whole number during the year,	176	122	298
Discharged, recovered,	26	11	37
Died,	11	9	20
Removed,	9	3	12
Eloped,	1	-	1
Remaining, October 1st, 1857,	129	99	228

	M.	F.	Total.
Whole number in the Asylum to October 1st, 1857, - - -	1,530	757	2,287
Discharged, recovered, - - - - -			840
Died, - - - - -			897
Removed, - - - - -			190
Eloped, - - - - -			132
Remaining, October 1st, 1857, - - - - -			228

In view of the nature of the cases admitted during the past year, and the duration of insanity prior to admission, we have no reason to complain of the measure of success which has attended our efforts in behalf of the unfortunate placed under our care. No less than twenty-two had been previously confined in this, or some similar Institution, and twenty-five are noted as being affected by hereditary taint.

The average age of the whole number, at the time of admission, was 36.51 years.

You will perceive, by an inspection of the following table, that an unusual number were old and hopeless cases. Most of those cases, the duration of which is unknown, are manifestly of long standing :

DURATION OF INSANITY PRIOR TO ADMISSION.

Over twenty years, - - - - -	4
From fifteen to twenty years, - - - - -	5
From ten to fifteen years, - - - - -	3
From five to ten years, - - - - -	12
From one to five years, - - - - -	22
Under one year, - - - - -	28
Unknown, - - - - -	26

It is apparent that the pernicious practice of detaining lunatics at home, amid the scenes or causes which may have produced derangement, until all hope of restoration has passed away, is still too prevalent. And yet the salutary influence of early seclusion has been demonstrated, and reliable statistics have proven, beyond doubt, that almost all are restored to reason when placed in some well regulated institution, within the first six months of insanity. This failure to secure proper treatment for the insane, in the earlier period of their affliction, is a great evil, for which, I regret to say, I am unable to suggest any adequate remedy. It has its foundation in the tenderest feelings of our nature—an indisposition to part with afflicted friends—and is, at least in some degree, supported by unfounded prejudices against asylums for the insane. There is a wonderful misapprehension in regard to the character and management of such institutions, as they are at present organized and conducted. Impressions made upon the public mind by the old method of treating the insane, when little was done for their restoration, and all to limit their freedom of action, are not yet wholly effaced from the memory. Thousands yet associate with insane asylums the idea of clanking chains, the lash, vociferous blasphemies, and all those horrible scenes which may have been

characteristic of such institutions many years ago, but for which, one will seek in vain in any institution of the present day. Curious visitors frequently ask to be shown to those apartments which secure the furious, and seem utterly incredulous when informed that they have already passed through the midst of the most violent in the house. We have no chains, no handcuffs, or other like means of confinement, nor are any such means of restraint resorted to, in this or any other well regulated institution of the present day. The law of kindness is the mighty power which has been found to exert far more salutary influence, and under its administration scenes of violence and ferocity, once so common in mad-houses, are now of very rare occurrence. Few individuals require personal restraint, and the greatest possible liberty is conceded to all. Some have the liberty of the grounds, others engage in moderate labor, and the remainder have, at least, the comfort of daily out-door exercise, in company with kind and obliging attendants, who seek, in every possible way, to make them feel that they are surrounded by friends whose greatest care is their comfort and welfare. All the inmates sit at table and take their meals quietly, and with as much order and decorum as are observed in ordinary hotels. I merely allude to these matters with the hope that they may aid in removing the remains of those old prejudices, which, I have been amazed to find, still lingering in some even intelligent minds.

OCCUPATION OF MALES ADMITTED DURING THE YEAR.

[illegible]

CIVIL CONDITION.

[illegible]

FORM OF INSANITY.

[illegible]

paratively insignificant figure when early education and sound moral training shall have become universal. Very few educated persons become insane, and when an instance does occur, it may be readily traced to some defect in the early training of the mind—the cultivation may have been irregular, or otherwise injudicious, or the intellectual faculties may have engrossed all the care, while the moral nature may have been totally neglected; or, what is true in most of such instances, the protective influence of education has been lost in indulgence in certain vicious habits, but too common with many who might otherwise have become ornaments to society. The observation of Dr. Conolly is, that “those who most exercise the faculties of their minds are least liable to insanity.” There is, in fact, a power in man to prevent or control insanity, and it fails chiefly when it is inefficient for want of cultivation, or when it has been misdirected in the earlier periods of life. This power is rarely efficient unless it has been developed and strengthened by education, and hence the poor and unschooled are the greatest sufferers from the most terrible of all humane afflictions. They fall before a blow that would be severely felt by others. For example, the educated and uninstructed are alike the subjects of illusions of the senses, but the trained mind of one will recognize the true character of its illusions and adopt suitable measures to correct the morbid condition on which they depend; while the other, unable to reason or judge, will accept them as real, and act accordingly. The illusion may be precisely the same with both, yet the one subject is sane, the other insane. It has been truly said, that much of the essential difference between sanity and insanity consists in the degree of self control exercised. Vagaries intrude themselves upon all minds, but the man of strong mind represses them and seeks fresh impressions from without, if he find that aid needful—the man of weak mind yields to them and then he is insane.

If the occasion were suitable many illustrious examples of insanity, avoided by the exercise of self-control, might be adduced. That the impulses of even the insane are, in a great degree, subject to their will, will be obvious to any intelligent observer who may visit a lunatic asylum. How readily the inmates conform to the discipline of the institution. They may be deceived by their senses—believe that real which does not exist—suppose themselves masters of unlimited wealth and power, and yet, under the influence of proper motives, they will resist their impulses and exhibit unmistakable evidence that their actions are still subject to the will. On this principle we base the moral treatment of the insane; we seek to arouse the intelligent will to self-control by kind and humane treatment and a judicious system of rewards for good, rather than punishment for evil doing. The old system sought no such object; chains and the lash aroused the baser

passions of our nature, fear, revenge, &c., and stimulated a struggle for the mastery, but they could not call into action that intelligent will with which man is endowed by his Creator, and in the exercise of which there is the surest guarantee for the prevention and control of insanity. This is probably one reason why so few restorations were effected under the old system; a want of success that induced the belief, which still lingers in the public mind, that insanity is incurable. This internal power to control the action of the brain, which is possessed, in some degree, by every one, and which is so sedulously cultivated and stimulated into action in the modern treatment of insanity, was wholly ignored, until within a very recent period.

If, then, this power of control exists and is rendered efficient only by education, what is the practical conclusion? That of all the duties devolving on government, there is none of higher import than that of providing for the education of the humblest citizen within the commonwealth. Under the influence of other and sufficient motives Kentucky has inaugurated a generous system, which cannot fail to extend the advantages of education to the remotest border of her territory, and, to my mind, among the blessings this system will dispense, not the least will be the preservation of many minds from the most horrible of all the evils to which our race is subject—mental derangement.

The general health of the Institution has been good during the entire year. The beneficial influence of the new supply of water, for the ordinary purposes of the Asylum, to which I alluded in my last report, has been most marked throughout the season, and all our flattering anticipations have been fully realized. Diarrhœa, once the perpetual scourge of the inmates of this Institution, has disappeared and the various affections treated here have become more manageable in the absence of this complication.

The mortality during the year has been small, and almost all the deaths were the necessary result of the condition of the deceased at the time of admission.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Dysentery,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Epilepsy,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Maniacal Exhaustion,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Consumption,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Old Age,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Marasmus,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Chorea,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Bed Sores,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

More than one-third of these unfortunate persons were most pitiable objects at the time of admission, and afforded no reasonable hope of protracting life beyond a few weeks. Death was doubtless hastened in some instances by the fatigue incident to removal. The person

who perished in consequence of extensive sloughing of bed sores, was admitted in this condition and survived but a short time.

AGES OF THE DECEASED.

Over 70 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over 50 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Over 40 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Over 30 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Over 20 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Average age, 40.05.													

DURATION OF INSANITY.

Over 30 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over 20 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over 10 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over 5 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Over 2 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Under 1 year,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Unknown,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8

TIME SPENT IN THE ASYLUM.

17 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
12 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
2 years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
11 months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
8 months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
6 months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
5 months,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
10 weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
6 weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
3 weeks,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
1 week,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1

In my report for 1855, I endeavored to furnish data which might serve as a guide to some equitable division of the State between the two Asylums, in accordance with the relative capacity of the two Institutions. For some reason it was not thought advisable to disturb the existing provisions of law, and the consequence is, that this Institution is crowded beyond its means of accommodation, while the Western Asylum has less than one-half it is calculated to receive. We have seventy-six chambers, in which we have had to lodge one hundred and two patients; and ninety-two chambers for males, occupied by one hundred and thirty-two patients. This condition of things has caused us no little anxiety, fearing least, in our efforts to accommodate all applicants, we might so crowd our small apartments as to impair the health of all. Fortunately the season was healthy and no serious injury was sustained. Occasionally I found it necessary to procure the removal of harmless and incurable persons, in order to make room for the violent and dangerous, and thus the number of removals presents an unusual figure. It was also necessary, in several instances, to decline applications from the fourth and fifth districts, as the law permitted these to enter the Western Asylum, and we could not admit them without rejecting others who had no such privilege.

Many applications for the admission of citizens of other States, have been received, but all, except five, were declined, on account of

our increasing numbers. Of these, four had resided in Kentucky many years, and had many relatives still residing in this part of the State, whose wishes your Board did not think it proper to disregard. The remaining case was one of peculiar interest. The gentleman was brought from a distant part of a neighboring State; he had served his country with more than ordinary ability in the national councils and distinguished himself in many of her bloodiest battle-fields, and your Board decided to receive him, rather than to put him to the hazard of a further loss of time in seeking shelter elsewhere. I am happy to say that he is in a fair way to recover, and I hope he will be soon restored to his family and to society, of which he has been so long an ornament.

As heretofore, many humane masters have sought to place their insane servants in this Institution for treatment, and it has been a painful necessity that compelled us to refuse their admission, especially when the case has presented flattering prospects of yielding to suitable treatment. But no provision has been made for their accommodation and, if we had room, it would be manifestly improper to mingle these persons with our own race.

The propriety of providing for the relief of this class of persons is respectfully submitted. Such a measure is dictated by humanity, and it addresses itself to the feelings of a generous people, who were never known to fail to meet every responsibility involved in their institutions. It is a measure of public safety, inasmuch as the maniac slave may become as dangerous to society as one of our own race. It is a measure of relief to the slaveholder, who is not prepared to manage his dependent when bereft of reason, or to give him that chance for restoration, which is demanded alike by humanity and the interest of the owner. It is a measure without expense to the State—for there are no pauper slaves—all have masters who will willingly meet every expense that may be incurred in the support and treatment of their unfortunate servants.

The current expenses of the Institution during the past year were extraordinary. With a largely increased number of patients we had to meet an unexampled advance in the cost of all the necessities of life, fuel, meats, sugar, breadstuffs, in fact every thing we had to purchase advanced, some essential articles, as much as fifty per cent. We have done all that was in our power to keep our expenses within the limit of the appropriation; strict economy has been practiced in every department, and the accounts are submitted in the fullest confidence that they will meet your approval. It will add to the convenience of the Institution, and materially lessen expenses, if the appropriation for its support is made payable semi-annually, instead of quarterly. This will enable us to procure supplies at much less cost, than when they

are purchased as they are needed. Fuel, for example, may be purchased from forty to fifty per cent. cheaper in June than during the winter season, but so large an amount as is required for that purpose cannot be spared from a single quarterly allowance.

The contracts with Messrs. Hawley & Co., Mr. Adams and Mr. Smead, were completed very early in October last. The cost of these improvements did not exceed the special appropriation granted by the last General Assembly.

I need not call your attention to the improvements and repairs now required, for the comfort of our inmates and the preservation of the buildings. These things were pressed upon your attention two years ago, and I have nothing to add to what I then said, except that the loss of time has rendered the wants of the Institution still more imperative. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of asking for a special committee, invested with authority to visit the Institution and examine its condition and ascertain its wants.

I append a list of the products of the farm, as an evidence of the value of such an appendage to an Institution like this. We have many inmates incapable of any other than field labor, and most of them are quite unhappy when unemployed. A glance at the occupations of those admitted will show that the farming and laboring classes of our fellow-citizens furnish the larger number of our inmates, and with most of them labor is a necessity, and very frequently one of the most efficient means of restoration. We are now entering upon the last season of our lease, and as the farm we have so long cultivated is now offered for sale, the lease cannot be renewed. Unless the State authorizes the purchase of a farm, we must be deprived of the profit of the labor of most of our inmates, and what is of vastly more import, of one of the most efficient means of restoration. No asylum for the insane is considered as well appointed, or in a condition to fulfil its beneficent mission, without at least one hundred and fifty acres of land. We can cultivate a still larger tract. No new institution is erected without ample provision in this respect, and few of the older ones are now unprovided. Our wants are certainly as imperative as those of others. The Western Asylum is, very properly, the owner of a large farm, while we, with double the number of patients, are not possessed of sufficient space for the ordinary purposes of exercise. Nearly two hundred persons, male and female, are out for daily exercise, and it is obvious that our limited grounds are wholly insufficient for their accommodation, without bringing the different classes and sexes into improper and injurious proximity. Hence, our inmates are driven to the highways for that out-door exercise so necessary to the improvement or preservation of their general health. This is a most inconvenient and unfortunate necessity imposed upon us by the limited grounds attached to the Institution.

Productive as the farm has been, it may be readily made more so, when it becomes the property of the Institution, while the pasture grounds may be so located as to afford private, secure and agreeable exercise to the males, thus leaving our present grounds to the females.

In my report for 1855, I took occasion to call your attention to the unhappy condition of a class of persons, some of whom are annually sent to the Asylum, to linger out a miserable existence, nor could I avoid, in that connection, some allusion to the still more unhappy condition of a yet larger number scattered over the State and retained in private families, only because they are the source of some little gain from the bounty of the Commonwealth. Many of these are doubtless cared for most tenderly and are made as comfortable as possible in the hands of unskilled friends, who have no idea of their capacity for improvement, and who are equally ignorant of the means to be resorted to to accomplish such an end.

I alluded to the astonishing results which had crowned the philanthropic efforts for the moral, intellectual and physical improvement of these degraded objects, both in Europe and America. Two years of additional observation and reflection have more than confirmed the opinion I then entertained, that Christian philanthropy and economy, alike, call for some State effort in their behalf, and I take the liberty of suggesting the propriety of again calling the attention of the Legislature to this important subject. The more thoroughly it is investigated, the more worthy it will appear of all the attention that may be given to it by the Christian and the statesman.

Nine years ago Massachusetts was induced by some of her influential and intelligent citizens, to provide for the maintenance and education of a certain number of idiots. Fortunately these citizens had witnessed some of the astounding results obtained in Europe, by systematic efforts to train and educate the idiot mind, and they were eager and zealous in urging their noble Commonwealth to embrace the feeble-minded in the scope of their already comprehensive system of charity. An experimental school was provided for, and conducted to such happy results, that it is now one of the permanently endowed institutions of Massachusetts. To this Institution Rhode Island contributes, and thus secures the education of a certain number of her idiot population. New York was not far behind Massachusetts, in initiating a similar system, and now, one of her noblest institutions is her school for idiots, located at Syracuse, and generously endowed with all the means necessary for the accomplishment of her glorious mission. Pennsylvania, Ohio and Connecticut are moving in the same direction, and it is sincerely hoped that Kentucky will be the next to enroll her name with these sovereign pioneers in an undertaking which is to elevate hundreds of the most miserable and degraded forms of

humanity into respectability and usefulness. It is a happy omen for these long neglected children of misfortune, that wherever an experimental school has been put in operation, it has been quickly followed by richly endowed public institutions; public attention has been speedily awakened to the vast benefit to accrue, not only to the idiot, but to society, and the deepest interest has been every where manifested in this wonderful achievement of our own age.

In the "Ninth Annual Report of the Massachusetts School for Idiotic and Feeble-Minded Youth," the Secretary, the distinguished Dr. E. Jarvis says: "Judging by the number of applications for the admission of children into this school, the readiness with which every vacancy is filled, the number of those who are waiting for such an opportunity, and the great inquiry that is constantly being made personally and by correspondence, relative to the principles and advantages of this Institution, there can be no doubt that the faith and interest in the education of such children as these, is growing more and more, and that the demand for it is not only increasing, but it will go on to further increase, until most of these feeble-minded youth, who are, or may be in the State, shall be allowed an opportunity of enjoying the privilege of such a school as this." Such is the testimony, after nine years actual experiment. Nor does this result stand alone. In no instance has an experiment been made without achieving success. Every where the results, have excited in the public mind wonder and surprise. In every State where a school has been established, it has won its way to the hearts of all and become the most popular and favored of all those noble charities, which are among the chief ornaments of modern civilization.

That is a beautiful sentiment which declares, that "it is not in the pursuit of fame or profit that man finds his noblest employment, though these may advance to meet him in his unshrinking career; it is in the being, as it were, the vicegerent of the Deity on earth, and spreading peace and comfort around him, that he carries out the intention of his Creator." I know of none who have fulfilled that great mission better than some of those who have espoused the cause of the poor idiot. They have manfully struggled against prejudice and neglect, sanctified and strengthened by centuries of injustice towards the feeblest of human beings, and they have triumphed, too, and thus rescued many of their fellow creatures from a state of most hopeless misery.

Happily our State is in a condition to provide for the training and education of her idiot population, without any addition to her ordinary annual appropriation. All that is required is to give a new direction to that large sum annually expended upon this class of unfortunate persons, and of which the most that can be said is, that it contributes,

in the smallest possible degree, to the physical comfort of these objects of the State's bounty. Once provided with a suitable building for their accommodation, the sum now annually appropriated for their benefit, to many of whom it does not yield one single comfort, will be amply sufficient to support the Institution. With an Asylum furnishing, all the means of unfolding and strengthening these feeble intellects, all support may be very properly withdrawn from those whose friends may choose to withhold from them the advantages of such a school.

As this charity of the State is now dispensed the aggregate amount is rapidly increasing, and it is impossible to tell what figure it is likely to reach in the course of a few more years. In 1843, \$14,880 33 were expended on idiots; in 1856, \$21,095 01, in addition to the cost of supporting those who are in the two Asylums. This amount is sufficient to render all the needy idiots in the State comfortable, while it will provide the means of improving the morals and habits of all, and of converting many of them into useful men and women, making them self-supporting, and in that proportion relieve the State of a portion of a burden which, under present auspices, is as enduring as the life of her beneficiaries.

The benefits to accrue to the idiot by such an organized charity, cannot be less striking than those afforded lunatics by the substitution of well-regulated asylums for the rude and not unfrequently savage control exercised over them in the jails and poor-houses some thirty years ago. In proof of the practicability of the proposed amelioration of the condition of idiots, I beg to refer to a few cases appended to this report.

All the general work in improving the grounds, etc., has, as heretofore, been cheerfully executed by attendants and patients.

In the sewing-room, all the clothing worn by State patients has been made and repaired, besides a large number of quilts, comforts, sheets, nearly three hundred and fifty yards of rag carpet, etc.

You have observed on the lawn, in front of the main building, a handsome cast-iron fountain, surmounted with the statue of a beautiful female grasping a dolphin, from the mouth of which spouts a jet of water. This is a present from our generous friend and fellow-citizen, David A. Sayre, Esq., whose sole care seems to be to wield his vast fortune for the promotion of the public good. While he is laboring to build up a literary institution for the education of females—an institution which he has endowed with the munificent sum of fifty thousand dollars—he has not been insensible to the cry of the orphan, nor yet to the wail of the lunatic. All have shared his bounty. Every refuge of misfortune within the scope of his observation is the object of his special favor, and wherever good can be accomplished, he

is ever found foremost among the most generous and philanthropic. I know his unaffected modesty, and that he instinctively seeks privacy for his benevolent deeds; but I feel that I cannot do less than make this public acknowledgment of his kindness to those over whose darkened spirits his beautiful present will cast a ray of light, of beauty, of joy, and many of whom, while they feel it, are incapable of giving expression to the pleasure he has afforded them. May he long live to dispense his noble charities to the needy and the unfortunate.

It is no idle compliment to say, that the officers and employees are competent and faithful, and that they work harmoniously to promote the interests of the Institution.

The Rev. W. M. Pratt continues to minister as chaplain of the Institution. During the last few months, the Rev. Mr. Adams has occupied our pulpit every alternate Sabbath. Others have occasionally served us, to all of whom I desire to express our thanks.

We have again to acknowledge ourselves indebted to the same proprietors of those periodicals whose kindness was alluded to in my last report. In addition to these, we are now furnished with a large number of the exchanges of the "Kentucky Statesman," for which we are indebted to the generosity of the editor of that sheet.

I have again to acknowledge the generous support of the Board of Managers, who, with a single exception, have so long devoted themselves to this noble charity. While I regret the loss of so efficient a member of the Board as James L. Allen, Esq., who resigned on removing to another State, I cannot but congratulate the Institution on the appointment of a gentleman to the vacancy, whose well-known kindness of heart and uniform fidelity to all the duties of life are the surest guarantees of a faithful discharge of the duties of the station.

Thankful for a year of uninterrupted good health, for the bountiful harvests that have crowned and blessed our labors, and for the general prosperous condition of the Institution, I once more commend it to your fostering care, and pray that, under Divine protection, it may continue to increase in usefulness until it shall have fully and perfectly accomplished its beneficent mission.

W. S. CHIPLEY, *Medical Super't.*

EASTERN LUNATIC ASYLUM, Lexington, Ky., Oct. 1st, 1857.

Farmer and Gardner's Report.

Dr. W. S. Chipley, Superintendent:

SIR—I have kept a daily account of the amount and value of products furnished for consumption in the house during the past twelve months. The amount in value is \$2,644 30. We have a full supply of all winter vegetables. The yield of potatoes has been extraordinary. A single half acre, carefully measured by several gentlemen, was found to have produced two hundred and seven bushels (207).

The following list embraces the principal articles of farm and garden produce:

Wheat, 807 bushels.
 Corn, 500 barrels.
 Oats, 520 dozen.
 Hay, 3 tons.
 Pumpkins, 25 cart loads.
 Wheat straw, \$100 worth.
 Irish potatoes, 2800 bushels.
 Sweet potatoes, 50 bushels.
 Cabbage, 30,000 heads.
 Sour krout, 14 barrels.
 Peas, dry, 10 bushels.
 Pork, 4105 pounds.
 Turnips, 6 acres.
 Chinese Sugar Cane, 3 acres.
 Cider, 42 barrels.
 Apples, 200 bushels.

Tomatos in cans, 40 gallons.
 Tomato catsup, 3 barrels.
 Sage, 10 pounds.
 Red pepper.
 Celery, \$200 worth
 Salsify, 40 bushels.
 Parsnips, 220 bushels
 Carrots, 100 bushels.
 Lima beans, 10 bushels.
 Sayre pea, 10 bushels.
 Beets, 230 bushels.
 Onions, 425 bushels.
 Onion sets, 30 bushels.
 Pickles, 8 barrels.
 Fodder, 575 shocks.

We had an abundant supply, in their season, of greens, tomatos, green corn, squashes, green peas, early cabbage, asparagus, cucumbers, cauliflower, string-beans, mellons, strawberries, currants, beets, onions, etc. Respectfully,

October 1st, 1857.

A. J. STILLFIELD,
Gardner and Farmer.

APPENDIX.

I take the liberty of appending the following extracts of cases as best calculated to illustrate and enforce the practicability of so training the idiot mind as to render those respectable and useful who would otherwise pass through life objects of loathing and disgust:

"A boy who was for a long time speechless; nobody could make him utter a syllable, and it was supposed he had no vocal powers whatever, yet he listened with evident delight to the music and singing of the other pupils, and one night he burst out singing one of the chants which had been used during the day. The power of utterance had been carefully improved, and he could now speak very tolerably. Several had manifested considerable skill in particular operations, and many who in the first instance were apparently helpless and hopeless, were now engaged in duties connected with the Asylum, which but for their help, persons must have been paid to perform."—*Asylum for Idiots, Colchester, England.*

"A very clever lad, now removed to Earlwood, who had made beautiful models of ships, was an excellent fencer, could glaze windows, &c., was on his reception at Essex Hall as sullen and apparently as helpless an idiot as he ever saw. He could scarcely utter an articulated sound, was disagreeable in temper, fond of solitude; but now they might place him at their own tables, and he would not disgrace them. When he (Mr. Sidney) had the honor, on the 3d of July last, to exhibit this boy's ship model to Prince Albert, he was asked if he meant to say that that beautiful model was made by a poor idiot. He assured his Royal Highness that such was the case; and that when he first knew him, the boy could not tell the difference between a dog's tail and his head. (Laughter.) There were six mat-makers, who earned between £70 and £80 a year for the Institution. One of these lads, when admitted, was in a most distressing condition, mentally and bodily, but was now a well-behaved, pleasing young man, and was earning between 12s. and 14s. a week at mat-making. They had also one rope-maker, eight tailors, four gardeners, and six house assistants"—*Ibid.*

"I. C., a girl 15 years of age, has been under Dr. Wilbur's care a little more than four years. When received, she was mischievous and viscious, very nervous, and could not speak distinctly. She could not be left alone with the children, from a propensity to injure them. She knew some of her letters, but could not be taught to read or write by any ordinary methods.

"She now reads well, writes a handsome hand, is remarkably proficient in geography and grammar, and has made good progress in addition and subtraction. She sews very neatly, and is very capable as an assistant in household matters. Her nervousness is no longer troublesome; her waywardness has entirely disappeared. In respect to moral training, she seems more advanced than most of the other pupils. She manifests a remarkable familiarity with Bible history, and with events in the life of our Savior. When requested to repeat the Lord's Prayer, she did so with a reverence, an impressiveness, and an evident understanding of its petitions, which exhibited in a very favorable light her intelligence and thoughtfulness; and as I listened to this once vicious and wayward idiot, thus uttering, in our Savior's own words, her petitions to the throne of heavenly grace, I was more deeply impressed than ever before with the adaptation of that sublime prayer to every human want."—*Ref. of Com. on Idiocy, Conn.*

"A young man of 18 years of age, who from infancy had been always peculiar and deficient in his mental manifestations, and was entirely dumb. From want of proper culture and direction of the vocal organs, he could make only the guttural sound of the trachea; did not move the lips when attempting to utter sounds; was extremely filthy and brutish in his habits, disobedient and sluggish in the extreme.

"His physical health was perfect, his muscles were largely and well developed. His perception was good, and he understood what was said to him, but could not apply his knowledge; his hearing was perfect. Having been left unrestrained from his childhood, and having attained to an age when the evil habits he had acquired had become fixed, and his animal appetites being his only source of enjoyment, I received him with great reluctance, expecting that he would make very little improvement.

"He has now been with me a little more than a year. It was nearly three months before I succeeded in inducing him to utter a correct vocal sound. I moulded his lips with my fingers; put blocks and rings of various sizes and shapes into his mouth; taught him general and special imitation; and finally succeeded in concentrating sufficient nervous energy in the muscles of the lips and vocal organs to enable him to master all the vowels, and by dint of perseverance, patience, and drilling, he finally acquired the ability to pronounce the consonants and many of their combinations. By a rigid course of discipline, his filthy habits were overcome.

"He now reads in Webb's First Reader, and is rapidly learning to speak the names of surrounding objects. His ideas of form, of color, and of numbers, are now very good, and he is acquiring a general knowledge of geography, arithmetic, and natural philosophy. He can

write well from a copy, can draw very creditably, and is apt at almost any kind of labor. No one would imagine that this well behaved young man could have led such a mere animal life one year since. He will be capable, under proper superintendence, of being highly useful in any department of labor, and had he been under suitable training when young, he would have been, I think, entirely cured of all his deficiencies.”—*Ref. School for Idiots, Barre, Mass., 1853.*

“A boy of 13 years—pure idiot from birth. He was obstinate in disposition, and very sluggish in all his movements; spoke in an unpleasant, drawling tone, and rarely repeated what was said to him. He could not read nor write—in fact, had no idea of form; could not dress himself properly; devoured his food without mastication. His eye was vacant and restless. After two and a half years at the Institution, his health is confirmed, he speaks and reads well, can write and draw some, and is able to make himself useful in the garden and about the house, performing various kinds of light labor. He has made a good proficiency at the geographical recitations; is also studying the elements of grammar and arithmetic.”—*Ibid.*

“A boy of 11 years old; well formed; healthy, except a slight chorea; good tempered, and cleanly in his habits; idiotic from birth, and has a sister, a little older than himself, who is an idiot. He came December 13th, 1851; talked imperfectly; could not read or write, or count, or distinguish colors by sight; did not know a single letter, and could not even distinguish one picture from another. He had none of the everyday practical knowledge of childhood.

“After seeing him at his home, in a cellar in New York city, standing, with an effort at concealment, partly behind the door, devouring rather than eating a piece of bread, with the saliva running out of his mouth, ill clothed and not over clean, and with a nervous twitching about the face, I candidly told the gentleman who accompanied me, that I felt some reluctance at including him among the number of experimental pupils. Nevertheless, he was allowed to come, and I ought properly here to enter my acknowledgment, that I was entirely mistaken in his case. We have now no more promising pupil. We have none who have profited more by instruction already received. His whole appearance is changed. There has been a radical change in his habits of body and mind. He is very playful; very attentive in his various mental exercises, and conducts himself, under all circumstances, with propriety.”—*Dr. Wilbur's Report, 1852.*

“A youth of sixteen, backward and peculiar from infancy. When he entered the school he was a large framed, very round shouldered boy, with a shuffling, unsteady gait, and a dull, heavy expression, as if half asleep all the time—blundering about, contriving to break

everything that came in his way, and tearing his clothes at every corner. The cranial puiestes were flattened—the eyes crossed, and defective in vision.

His consumption of food was enormous. He had the habit of falling asleep, at any time and place, so profoundly, that his perceptive powers were usually stupified and his eye-sight still more imperfect when he awoke.

“He showed quite a passion for the marvellous, would tell exaggerated, amusing stories of what he had seen or heard, not from a desire to tell untruths, for in ordinary matters his word could be relied on, but merely to gratify this propensity, &c. Two years’ residence in the Institution have effected a great change, externally and internally. By gymnastics, by constant appeals to his pride, the stooping posture has become erect, the gait improved, and the whole appearance less awkward. By restrictions in the amount of food taken, his sleepiness and consequent stupor have entirely disappeared. He never complains of inability to see. By constant association with those who have treated his mistakes with kindness, and encouraged him to self respect, as well as from having enjoyed opportunities of directing others less capable than himself, he has now enlarged confidence in his own abilities, and feels within the power to do still better in the future. He has progressed well in business capacities, general information—language much improved, both in tones and distinctness. In school he has required constant instruction. But there was a desire to learn, and despite all his obtuseness of intellect, and the severe grappling with, to him, great difficulties which he met at every step of his way, he has mastered the first four rules of written arithmetic, obtained a good share of geographical knowledge, and made acquaintance with the first principles of grammar. Common philosophical facts have interested him greatly, and helped to develop both reason and understanding. His penmanship is creditable.”—*Ref. School for Idiots, Barre, Mass., 1855.*

“A boy aged fourteen, admitted June 2d. He could not utter an intelligent word, or make known a single want. He could not walk or even sit erect; but with body bent forward and hands outstretched, he tottered unevenly from place to place, apparently without an object; often sitting alone upon the ground, moaning silently, as if from some hidden sorrow that was struggling for utterance. He was unable to feed himself, and in going up or down stairs would crawl upon his hands, exhibiting signs and uttering cries of constant fear. No one could look upon his atrophied limbs, vacant eye, driveling mouth, and stooping form, without being moved with pity. And yet, after fourteen years of seclusion at home, and a residence of only seven months in our Institution, he sits and walks erect, finds his own bed and his place at table, feeds himself without assistance, and participates in the

enjoyments of his associates. The feeble spark of intellect that has so long been buried, begins to kindle, and like the flickering of a distant light, now and then animates the vacant eye with attentive desire, and brightens up the drooping countenance with an expression of interest in what is being done for his benefit."—*Ref. Penn. Training School for Idiots and Feeble-Minded Children*, 1857.

"A boy aged thirteen, admitted August 17th. At home he was almost helpless, and yet exceedingly obstinate; could express but few wants, and supply none. No force of command or persuasion could induce a prompt effort of mind or body. The lethargy of years had made the weight of existence burdensome to others, if not to himself. He was brought to us, after more than a thousand miles of travel, a mere shred of humanity—a perfect example of imbecility, scarcely able to walk, speak, or help himself in any way. If spoken to, he would instantly cover his face with his hand, hang his head, and refuse recognition. If assisted to exert himself, he would immediately cease when left alone. He would neither come when called, or go when directed; but sit alone in the dark, or in the rays of the burning sun, without apparent emotion or effort to remove. But from being one of the most obstinate and unpromising boys in our family, we have not at this time one more willing and amiable. He now feeds himself, is cleanly in his habits, tractable in disposition, and though feeble in body and mind, there is cause for encouragement to hope that a few more years will find him able to support himself."—*Ibid.*

The above are but a few of a very large number of reported cases. Some of the pupils have made sufficient progress to enter the primary departments of the public schools, and are now standing side by side with children of ordinary intellect; and if they do not reach the loftier heights of science, they will acquire a sufficient amount of knowledge to enable them to pass creditably through life.

